

U.S. companies and other United States persons from approving, facilitating, or financing performance by a foreign subsidiary or other entity owned or controlled by a United States person of reexport, investment, and certain trade transactions that a United States person is prohibited from performing; (6) continues the 1987 prohibition on the importation into the United States of goods and services of Iranian origin; (7) prohibits any transaction by any United States person or within the United States that evades or avoids or attempts to violate any prohibition of the order; and (8) allowed U.S. companies a 30-day period in which to perform trade transactions pursuant to contracts predating the Executive order.

In Executive Order No. 12959, I directed the Secretary of the Treasury to authorize through specific licensing certain transactions, including transactions by United States persons related to the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal in The Hague, established pursuant to the Algiers Accords, and related to other international obligations and United States Government functions, and transactions related to the export of agricultural commodities pursuant to preexisting contracts consistent with section 5712(c) of title 7, United States Code. I also directed the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to consider authorizing United States persons through specific licensing to participate in market-based swaps of crude oil from the Caspian Sea area for Iranian crude oil in support of energy projects in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan.

Executive Order No. 12959 revoked sections 1 and 2 of Executive Order No. 12613 of October 29, 1987, and sections 1 and 2 of Executive Order No. 12957 of March 15, 1995, to the extent they are inconsistent with it. A copy of Executive Order No. 12959 was transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and President of the Senate by letters dated May 6, 1995.

2. There were no amendments to the Iranian Transactions Regulations, 31 CFR Part 560 (the "ITR") during the reporting period.

3. During the current 6-month period, the Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (FAC) made numerous decisions with respect to applications for licenses to engage in transactions under the ITR, issuing 54 licensing determinations—both approvals and denials. The majority of denials were in response to requests to extend contract performance beyond the time specified by Executive Order No. 12959 and by FAC general license. Licenses were issued authorizing the continued operation of Iranian diplomatic accounts, powers of attorney, extensions of standby letters of credit, payments for trade transactions pursuant to contracts prior to May 6, 1995, and exportation of certain agricultural products contracted for prior to May 6, 1995. The FAC continues to review

under section 560.528 requests for authorization to export and reexport goods, services, and technology to ensure the safety of civil aviation and safe operation of U.S.-origin commercial passenger aircraft in Iran. In light of statutory restrictions applicable to goods and technology involved in these cases, Treasury continues to consult and coordinate with the Departments of State and Commerce on these matters, consistent with section 4 of Executive Order No. 12959.

During the reporting period, FAC administered provisions on services related to maintaining Iranian bank accounts and identified and rejected Iran-related payments not authorized under the ITR. United States banks were notified that they could not process transactions on behalf of accounts held in the name of the Government of Iran or persons in Iran, with the exception of certain transactions related to interest accruals, customary service charges, the exportation of information or informational material, travel-related remittances, donations of articles to relieve human suffering, or lump sum closures of accounts by payment to their owners. United States banks continue to handle certain dollar payment transactions involving Iran between third-country banks that do not involve a direct credit or debit to Iranian accounts. Noncommercial family remittances involving Iran must be routed to or from non-U.S., non-Iranian offshore banks.

The FAC continues to coordinate closely with the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and the California banking authorities concerning the treatment of three Iranian bank agencies—Banks Sepah, Saderat, and Melli. Licenses have been issued to the Iranian bank agencies authorizing them to pay overhead expenses under the supervision of the California and New York banking departments while meeting obligations incurred prior to May 6, 1995. Authorization expired at the end of December, which had enabled them to make payments to U.S. exporters under letters of credit advised prior to June 6, 1995, where the underlying exports were completed in accordance with the Regulations or a specific license issued by FAC. The FAC also had permitted the agencies to offer discounted advance payments on deferred payment letters of credit under the same conditions.

4. The U.S. Customs Service has continued to effect numerous seizures of Iranian-origin merchandise, primarily carpets, for violation of the import prohibitions of the ITR. Various enforcement actions carried over from previous reporting periods are continuing and new reports of violations are being aggressively pursued.

5. The expenses incurred by the Federal Government in the 6-month period from September 15, 1995, through March 14, 1996, that are directly attributable to the exercise of powers and authorities conferred by the declaration of a national emergency with respect

to Iran are approximately \$965,000 most of which represents wage and salary costs for Federal personnel. Personnel costs were largely centered in the Department of the Treasury (particularly in the Office of Foreign Assets Control, the U.S. Customs Service, the Office of the Under Secretary for Enforcement, and the Office of the General Counsel), the Department of State (particularly the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, the Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs, and the Office of the Legal Adviser), and the Department of Commerce (the Bureau of Export Administration and the General Counsel's Office).

6. The situation reviewed above continues to involve important diplomatic, financial, and legal interests of the United States and its nationals and presents an extraordinary and unusual threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. The declaration of the national emergency with respect to Iran contained in Executive Order No. 12957 and the comprehensive economic sanctions imposed by Executive Order No. 12959 underscore the United States Government's opposition to the actions and policies of the Government of Iran, particularly its support of international terrorism and its efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them. The Iranian Transactions Regulations issued pursuant to Executive Orders No. 12957 and No. 12959 continue to advance important objectives in promoting the non-proliferation and antiterrorism policies of the United States. I shall exercise the powers at my disposal to deal with these problems and will report periodically to the Congress on significant developments.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *March 11, 1996.*

By unanimous consent, the message was referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 104-185).

¶26.19 ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, announced that pursuant to clause 4, rule I, the Speaker signed the following enrolled bill on Monday, March 11, 1996:

H.R. 927. An Act to seek international sanctions against the Castro government in Cuba, and for other purposes.

¶26.20 SUBPOENA

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, laid before the House the following communication from Mr. BRYANT:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 7, 1996.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule L (50) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that Woody Stickles, District Staff Assistant in my Clarksville, Tennessee office, has been served

with a subpoena issued by the Montgomery County, Tennessee Circuit Court in the case of *Irvin v. Tennessee Management Co.*

After consultation with the Office of the General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

ED BRYANT.

¶26.21 SUBPOENA

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, laid before the House the following communication from Mr. PORTER:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 1, 1996.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule L (50) of the Rules of the House that a member of my staff has been served with a subpoena issued by the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois.

After consultation with the General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Sincerely,

JOHN EDWARD PORTER.

¶26.22 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AUTHORIZATION

Mr. OXLEY moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2972) to authorize appropriations for the Securities and Exchange Commission, to reduce the fees collected under the Federal securities laws, and for other purposes; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, recognized Mr. OXLEY and Mr. MARKEY, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

Ordered, That the Clerk request the concurrence of the Senate in said bill.

¶26.23 FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATOR REVITALIZATION

Mr. SHUSTER moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2276) to establish the Federal Aviation Administration as an independent establishment in the executive branch, and for other purposes; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, recognized Mr. SHUSTER and Mr. OBERSTAR, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, announced that two-thirds of

the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

Ordered, That the Clerk request the concurrence of the Senate in said bill.

¶26.24 BI-STATE DEVELOPMENT OF MISSOURI AND ILLINOIS

Mr. GEKAS moved to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 78) to grant the consent of the Congress to certain additional powers conferred upon the Bi-State Development Agency by the States of Missouri and Illinois; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, recognized Mr. GEKAS and Mr. REED, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said joint resolution, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. GEKAS objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, pursuant to clause 5, rule I, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.

The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.

¶26.25 HISTORIC CHATTAHOOCHEE COMPACT

Mr. GEKAS moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2064) to grant the consent of Congress to an amendment of the Historic Chattahoochee Compact between the States of Alabama and Georgia.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, recognized Mr. GEKAS and Mr. REED, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. GEKAS objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. CAMP, pursuant to clause 5, rule I, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.

The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.

¶26.26 SENSE OF CONGRESS CONDEMNING TERROR ATTACKS

Mr. GILMAN moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 149); as amended:

Whereas, on February 25, 1996, two vicious terror attacks in Jerusalem and Ashkelon killed 2 American citizens and 25 Israelis, and wounded over 75 more;

Whereas, on February 26, 1996, an Israeli citizen was killed and 22 Israelis were injured when a terrorist drove a rental car into a Jerusalem bus stop;

Whereas, on March 3, 1996, a suicide bus bombing in Jerusalem took the lives of 18 innocent Israelis and other individuals and injured 10 more;

Whereas, on March 4, 1996, yet another heinous explosion by a suicide bomber in Tel Aviv murdered at least 13 and wounded 130 more;

Whereas, the Gaza-based Hamas terror group claimed responsibility for the most recent bombings, and the Damascus-based Palestinian Islamic Jihad and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine terror groups have claimed responsibility for the majority of terror attacks since the signing of the Declaration of Principles;

Whereas, these successive incidents represent an unprecedented escalation by Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad of their terrorist campaign designed to cause maximum carnage against the peaceful civilian population of Israel, including children, women and the elderly;

Whereas, these terrorist attacks are aimed not only at innocent Israeli civilians but also at destroying the Middle East peace process;

Whereas, since the signing of the Declaration of Principle between Israel and the PLO on September 13, 1993 nearly 200 people, including 5 American citizens, have been killed in terrorist acts;

Whereas, the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Palestinian Authority and Yasser Arafat have been ineffective and unsuccessful in completely rooting out the vicious terrorist elements from Palestinian controlled areas, calling into question their commitment to the peace process;

Whereas, the vast majority of Palestinian terror suspects have not been apprehended, or if apprehended, not tried or punished, and not terror suspects requested for transfer have been transferred to Israeli authorities by Palestinian authorities in direct contravention of agreements signed between the PLO and Israel;

Whereas, the Palestinian Authority must now do much more systematically to end the threat posed by terrorist groups and take other steps consistent with the Israel-Palestinian Interim Agreement, including the apprehension, trial, and punishment of those who conduct terrorist acts and the implementation of procedures agreed upon with Israel to transfer suspected terrorists;

Whereas, the hateful language calling for Israel's destruction, that remains an integral part of the Palestinian National Covenant only serves to incite those opposed to the peace process;

Whereas, the Palestinian National Covenant has not yet been amended, despite commitments by the PLO to do so;

Whereas, these failures undermine and threaten the peace process as well as continued U.S. financial assistance;

Whereas, the government of Iran continues to provide safe haven, financial support and arms to terror groups such as Hamas, Islamic Jihad, or Hizbollah among others, and has in no way acted to restrain these groups from committing acts of terrorism;

Whereas, notwithstanding Syria's participation in a serious negotiating process to reach a peace agreement with Israel, Syria continues to provide a safe haven for terrorist groups opposed to the peace process, permits the arming of Hizbollah in Lebanon, and has not acted to prevent these groups from committing acts of terrorism; and